GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4860
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2002
EXPANION OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN WEST BENGAL
PRABODH PANDA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges along with their respective capacity functioning at present in West Bengal, district-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to set up new Telephone exchanges and expand the capacity of existing exchanges in this State;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposed to introduce cellular phone services in all district Head Quarters of West Bengal; and

(e) if so, the time by which it will be started?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SIKDAR)

(a) Details are given at Annexure.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is proposed to commission around 180 numbers of telephone exchanges including main and expansion, with capacity addition of approximately. 3.23 lakh lines during the current financial year in West Bengal.

(d) & (e): Cellular phone service is already working for the entire area under the jurisdiction of Kolkata Telephone District. In remaining districts of West Bengal, first commissioning of cellular phone service is likely to commence from November,2002.

ANNEXURE

DISTRICT-WISE NUMBER OF TELEPHONE EXCHANGES WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE CAPACITY FUNCTIONING AT P
IN WEST BENGAL

SL.No.	Name of District	No. of Exchanges	Total capacity
1	Burdwan	173	224722
2	Murshidabad	90	81484
3	Baukura	65	49910
4	Howrah	28	19416
5	Hooghly	91	98704
6	24 Pargannas(N)	60	64736
7	24 Pargannas (S)	56	49464
8	Coochbehar	33	38304
9	Jalpaiguri	51	55088
10	Midnapur	164	144652
11	Nadia	74	87610
12	Malda	54	57476
13	Purulia	28	23452
14	Dinajpur (N)	45	47776
15	Dinajpur (S)	30	33476
16	Darjeeling	78	106456

17	Birbhum	83	57416
18	Calcutta	322	1470141